

File 13B

Mr. Robert Speed
Mr. Paul Porsch **PEF**
Occidental Chemical Corporation, Hooker Industrial & Specialty Chemicals
Niagara Falls (C), Niagara County SPDES Permit #NY 0003336
August 5, 1985

A recon inspection of the facility was conducted on July 26, 1985 by the writer. Personnel contacted: Mr. John Kappel and Mr. James Czapla.

Prior to inspecting the outfalls, etc. the following items were discussed:

1. Reviewed their July 12, 1985 letter regarding sewer line work and close out of the old MCT plant. I indicated to them that it was acceptable.
2. Discussed schedule production area shut downs. According to the schedule all production areas will not be back on line before October 7, therefore the earliest we could schedule compliance sampling would be the middle of October. "N" area is down this week.
3. Outfall 001 pH investigation. An outfall sewer system entering the east side of MH 1-02 has had a consistently high pH (12.5-13.0). A 4' section of this line was removed, \pm 10' east of MH 1-02 and plugged with concrete. Since this was accomplished the pH in outfall 001 has been below 9.0.
4. Regarding the present cooling towers in the "N" area. The cooling tower water is checked daily by infra red analysis to determine if there are organics leaking into the system. Also any sizeable leak would be detected by odor.
5. Inspected the coal pile west of the boiler house. A concrete wall \pm 10' feet high encloses the south and west end. The north side has a partial wall \pm 4' high with coal spilling over onto a railroad siding. The coal pile is under the control of the EFW facility even though it services the Niagara Plant Boiler house. Awaiting report from EFW characterizing this storage pile.
6. Inspected outfall 005 pump station and monitoring station - satisfactory I.R. (TOC) sampler was operating.
7. Inspected the MCT facility. LEL in operations office was operating. Abandoned MH 162 had a considerable amount of organics in the bottom. I suggested they pump the abandoned sewer lines periodically.

8. Inspected outfall 004 monitoring station - satisfactory. LEL's in outfall sewer and sanitary sewer were operating. I.R. (TOC) sampler was operating. A portable tank wagon was adding liquid sodium bicarbonate to the 47th Street sanitary sewer for pH control. Mr. Kappel stated a similar system is operating at the Iroquois Street sewer.
9. Inspected "S" area lagoons and outfall 003 monitoring station. I.R. (TOC) sampler was operating. Discharge was ok. The "S" area lagoons were not discharging because the "N" area was shut down. The east lagoon was being desludged. The sludge was being dewatered by a portable plate filter installed between the lagoons. The plate filter was being evaluated for possible future use for increasing the solid content of the sludge prior to going to CECOS.
10. Inspected outfall 001 monitoring station. There is no I.R. sampler or LEL in outfall 001. Flow appeared to be stagnant. Inspected area of severed outfall line at MH 1-02.
11. If the addition tank is added to the present "N" area cooling towers, it will also eliminate a present discharge of non-contact cooling water going to outfall 003. The cooling water is from their fluoride chlorination facility. In case of a leak perchlorobenzotrifluoride and PCE fluoride could enter the cooling water.

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